

Amendments to the Claims:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1: (Currently Amended) A gaming device comprising:

a plurality of reels;

a plurality of symbols on the reels, said symbols including at least one prize symbol associated with a physical prize and at least one re-trigger symbol;

an initial designated number of spins of the reels, said designated number being greater than one;

a designated number of the prize symbols necessary to be accumulated to win the associated physical prize, wherein the designated number of prize symbols is greater than the number of prize symbols which can possibly be accumulated in the initial designated number of spins of the reels; and

a processor programmed to:

- (i) control the reels,
- (ii) activate the reels ~~for~~ until none of the initial designated number of spins remain,
- (iii) re-trigger at least one additional spin of the reels if the re-trigger symbol or a predetermined symbol combination occurs on the reels during the initial designated number of spins of the reels,
- (iv) accumulate any prize symbols which occur on the reels in each spin of the reels, and
- (v) award the physical prize to the player if the accumulated number of prize symbols reaches the designated number of prize symbols.

Claim 2: (Original) The gaming device of Claim 1, wherein the designated number of prize symbols is greater than the initial designated number of spins of the reels.

Claim 3: (Original) The gaming device of Claim 1, which includes at least one payline associated with the reels.

Claim 4: (Original) The gaming device of Claim 3, wherein the processor accumulates any prize symbols which occur on any of the paylines in each spin of the reels.

Claim 5: (Original) The gaming device of Claim 1, wherein the accumulated number of prize symbols is reset when no spins remain.

Claim 6: (Original) The gaming device of Claim 1, wherein the initial designated number of spins are obtained in a primary game activated upon a wager by the player.

Claim 7: (Original) The gaming device of Claim 6, wherein the accumulated number of prize symbols is reset after a plurality of primary games.

Claim 8: (Original) The gaming device of Claim 1, wherein the prize symbol includes an image which represents the physical prize.

Claim 9: (Original) The gaming device of Claim 1, wherein the initial designated number of spins is randomly determined.

Claim 10: (Original) The gaming device of Claim 1, wherein the initial designated number of spins is predetermined.

Claim 11: (Original) The gaming device of Claim 1, wherein the designated number of prize symbols is randomly determined.

Claim 12: (Original) The gaming device of Claim 1, wherein the designated number of prize symbols is predetermined.

Claim 13: (Previously Presented) The gaming device of Claim 1, which includes a plurality of different physical prizes, wherein the processor is programmed to provide one of said physical prizes to the player when the accumulated number of prize symbols reaches the designated number of prize symbols necessary to win the physical prize.

Claim 14: (Original) The gaming device of Claim 13, wherein at least two of the physical prizes have different values.

Claim 15: (Previously Presented) The gaming device of Claim 13, which includes a probability of being selected by the processor associated with each of the

physical prizes, wherein the processor is programmed to select and provide one of the physical prizes to the player based on said probabilities.

Claim 16: (Previously Presented) The gaming device of Claim 1, which includes a plurality of different physical prizes, wherein the processor is programmed to enable the player to pick one of said physical prizes if the accumulated number of prize symbols reaches the designated number of prize symbols.

Claim 17: (Original) The gaming device of Claim 1, which includes a prize symbol display operable to indicate the number of accumulated prize symbols.

Claim 18: (Original) The gaming device of Claim 17, wherein the prize symbol display includes a plurality of prize symbol indicators.

Claim 19: (Original) The gaming device of Claim 18, which includes at least one illumination device associated with the prize symbol indicators.

Claim 20: (Original) The gaming device of Claim 17, wherein the prize symbol display includes an integer which represents the accumulated number of prize symbols.

Claim 21: (Original) The gaming device of Claim 20, wherein the integer increments by at least one for each prize symbol which occurs on the reels.

Claim 22: (Original) The gaming device of Claim 1, wherein the initial designated number of spins are free spins.

Claim 23: (Original) The gaming device of Claim 1, wherein the initial designated number of spins of the reels is at least in part based on a wager made by the player.

Claim 24: (Original) The gaming device of Claim 1, wherein the designated number of the prize symbols necessary to be accumulated to win the physical prize is at least in part based on a wager made by the player.

Claim 25: (Original) The gaming device of Claim 1, wherein the number of prize symbols which are accumulated based on each prize symbol which occurs on the reels is at least in part based on a wager made by the player.

Claim 26: (Original) The gaming device of Claim 1, wherein odds of obtaining a re-trigger of the reels is at least in part based on a wager made by the player.

Claim 27: (Previously Presented) The gaming device of Claim 1, wherein the processor is programmed to enable the player to select the physical prize.

Claim 28: (Currently Amended) A gaming device comprising:

a plurality of reels;

a plurality of symbols on the reels, said symbols including at least one first prize symbol associated with a first physical prize, at least one second prize symbol associated with a second different physical prize, and at least one re-trigger symbol;

an initial designated number of spins of the reels, said designated number being greater than one;

a designated number of the first prize symbols necessary to be accumulated to win the associated first physical prize, wherein the designated number of first prize symbols is greater than the number of first prize symbols which can possibly be accumulated in the initial designated number of spins of the reels;

a designated number of the second prize symbols necessary to be accumulated to win the associated second different physical prize, wherein the designated number of second prize symbols is greater than the number of second prize symbols which can possibly be accumulated in the initial designated number of spins of the reels; and

a processor programmed operable to:

- (i) control the reels,
- (ii) activate the reels ~~for~~ until none of the initial designated number of spins remain,
- (iii) re-trigger at least one additional spin of the reels when the re-trigger symbol or a predetermined symbol combination occurs on the reels during the initial designated number of spins of the reels,

- (iv) accumulate any first prize symbols which occur on the reels in each spin of the reels,
- (v) accumulate any second prize symbols which occur on the reels in each spin of the reels,
- (vi) award the first physical prize to the player if the accumulated number of first prize symbols reaches the designated number of first prize symbols, and
- (vii) award the second physical prize to the player if the accumulated number of second prize symbols reaches the designated number of second prize symbols.

Claim 29: (Original) The gaming device of Claim 28, wherein the designated number of first prize symbols is greater than the initial designated number of spins of the reels and the designated number of second prize symbols is greater than the initial designated number of spins of the reels.

Claim 30: (Original) The gaming device of Claim 28, wherein the accumulated number of first and second prize symbols is reset when no spins remain.

Claim 31: (Original) The gaming device of Claim 28, wherein the initial designated spins are obtained in a primary game activated upon a wager by the player.

Claim 32: (Original) The gaming device of Claim 28, wherein the first physical prize is of a higher value than the second physical prize.

Claim 33: (Original) The gaming device of Claim 32, which includes a higher probability of obtaining the second physical prize than the first physical prize.

Claim 34: (Original) The gaming device of Claim 28, wherein the initial designated number of spins are free spins.

Claim 35: (Original) The gaming device of Claim 28, wherein the initial designated number of spins of the reels is at least in part based on a wager made by the player.

Claim 36: (Original) The gaming device of Claim 28, wherein the designated number of the first prize symbols necessary to be accumulated to win the first physical prize is at least in part based on a wager made by the player.

Claim 37: (Original) The gaming device of Claim 28, wherein the designated number of the second prize symbols necessary to be accumulated to win the second physical prize is at least in part based on a wager made by the player.

Claim 38: (Original) The gaming device of Claim 28, wherein the number of prize symbols accumulated for each prize symbol which occurs on the reels is at least in part based on a wager made by the player.

Claim 39: (Original) The gaming device of Claim 29, wherein odds of obtaining a re-trigger of the reels is at least in part based on a wager made by the player.

Claim 40: (Currently Amended) A gaming device comprising:

a primary game;

a secondary game;

at least one triggering event associated with the primary game, wherein the secondary game is initiated upon the occurrence of the triggering event in the primary game;

a physical prize associated with the secondary game;

a plurality of reels including a plurality of symbols in the secondary game, the symbols including at least one prize symbol associated with the physical prize and at least one re-trigger symbol, the secondary game including an initial designated number of spins of the reels, said designated number being greater than one;

a designated number of prize symbols necessary to be accumulated in the secondary game to win the physical prize, wherein the designated number of prize symbols is greater than the number of prize symbols that can possibly be accumulated in the an initially designated number of spins of the reels in the secondary game; and

a processor programmed operable to:

- (i) control the reels,
- (ii) activate the set of reels ~~for~~ until none of said initial designated number of spins remain in the secondary game after the triggering event occurs in the primary game,
- (iii) re-trigger the activation of the reels for at least one additional activation of the reels if the re-trigger symbol or a predetermined symbol combination occurs on the reels in the secondary game,
- (iv) accumulate any prize symbols which occur on the reels in the activations of the reels in the secondary game, and
- (v) award the physical prize to the player if the accumulated number of prize symbols reaches the designated number of prize symbols.

Claim 41: (Original) The gaming device of Claim 40, wherein the designated number of prize symbols necessary to be accumulated in the secondary game is greater than the designated number of spins.

Claim 42: (Original) The gaming device of Claim 40, wherein the triggering event includes a combination of symbols occurring on a set of reels in the primary game.

Claim 43: (Original) The gaming device of Claim 40, wherein the initial designated number of spins are free spins.

Claim 44: (Original) The gaming device of Claim 40, wherein the initial designated number of spins of the reels is at least in part based on a wager made by the player.

Claim 45: (Original) The gaming device of Claim 40, wherein the designated number of the prize symbols necessary to be accumulated to win the physical prize is at least in part based on a wager made by the player.

Claim 46: (Original) The gaming device of Claim 40, wherein the number of prize symbols accumulated for each prize symbol which occurs on the reels is at least in part based on a wager made by the player.

Claim 47: (Original) The gaming device of Claim 40, wherein odds of obtaining a re-trigger of the reels is at least in part based on a wager made by the player.

Claim 48: (Currently Amended) A gaming device comprising:

- a plurality of reels;
- a plurality of symbols on the reels, said symbols including at least one first prize symbol, associated with a first physical prize, at least one second prize symbol associated with a second different physical prize, and at least one re-trigger symbol;
- an initial designated number of free spins of the reels, said designated number being greater than one;

a designated number of the first prize symbols necessary to be accumulated to win the associated first physical prize;

a designated number of the second prize symbols necessary to be accumulated to win the associated second different physical prize, wherein the first physical prize is of a higher value than the second physical prize; and

a processor programmed operable to:

- (i) control the reels,
- (ii) activate the reels for the initial designated number of spins,
- (iii) re-trigger at least one spin of the reels if the re-trigger symbol or a predetermined symbol combination occurs on the reels,
- (iv) accumulate any first prize symbols which occur on the reels in each spin of the reels,
- (v) accumulate any second prize symbols which occur on the reels in each spin of the reels,
- (vi) award the first physical prize to the player if the accumulated number of first prize symbols reaches the designated number of first prize symbols, wherein the re-trigger symbol or the predetermined symbol combination must occur on the reels to accumulate the designated number of first prize symbols, and
- (vii) award the second physical prize to the player if the accumulated number of second prize symbols reaches the designated number of second prize symbols, wherein the re-trigger symbol or the predetermined symbol combination

must occur on the reels to accumulate the designated number of second prize symbols.

Claim 49: (Original) The gaming device of Claim 48, wherein the initial designated number of free spins are obtained in a primary game activated upon a wager by the player.

Claim 50: (Original) The gaming device of Claim 48, which includes a higher probability of obtaining the second physical prize than obtaining the first physical prize.

Claim 51: (Original) The gaming device of Claim 48, wherein the initial designated number of free spins of the reels is at least in part based on a wager made by the player.

Claim 52: (Original) The gaming device of Claim 48, wherein the designated number of the first prize symbols necessary to be accumulated to win the first physical prize is at least in part based on a wager made by the player.

Claim 53: (Original) The gaming device of Claim 48, wherein the designated number of the second prize symbols necessary to be accumulated to win the second physical prize is at least in part based on a wager made by the player.

Claim 54: (Original) The gaming device of Claim 48, wherein the number of prize symbols which are accumulated for each prize symbol which occurs on the reels is at least in part based on a wager made by the player.

Claim 55: (Original) The gaming device of Claim 48, wherein odds of obtaining a re-trigger of the reels is at least in part based on a wager made by the player.

Claim 56: (Currently Amended) A method for operating a gaming device; said method comprising:

- (a) displaying a primary game to a player;
- (b) initiating a secondary game upon the occurrence of a triggering event in the primary game;
- (c) designating an initial number of spins of a plurality of reels in the secondary game;
- (d) designating a number of prize symbols necessary to be accumulated to win a physical prize in the secondary game, wherein the designated number of prize symbols is greater than the number of prize symbols which can possibly be accumulated in the designated initial number of spins of the reels in the secondary game;
- (e) activating the reels ~~for~~ until none of the designated initial number of spins remain in the secondary game;
- (f) accumulating any prize symbols which occur on the reels;

(g) re-activating the reels at least one additional time if a triggering event occurs in the secondary game; and

(h) awarding the physical prize to the player if the accumulated number of prize symbols reaches the designated number of prize symbols necessary to win the physical prize in the secondary game.

Claim 57: (Original) The method of Claim 56, wherein accumulating any prize symbols which occur on the reels includes accumulating any prize symbols indicated on at least one payline associated with the reels.

Claim 58: (Original) The method of Claim 56, which includes randomly determining the designated initial number of spins.

Claim 59: (Original) The method of Claim 56, which includes pre-determining the designated initial number of spins.

Claim 60: (Original) The method of Claim 56, which includes randomly determining the designated number of prize symbols necessary to be accumulated to win the physical prize in the secondary game.

Claim 61: (Original) The method of Claim 56, which includes pre-determining the designated number of prize symbols necessary to be accumulated to win the physical prize in the secondary game.

Claim 62: (Original) The method of Claim 56, which includes displaying the accumulated number of prize symbols on a prize symbol display.

Claim 63: (Original) The method of Claim 56, wherein providing a physical prize to the player includes providing a physical prize from a plurality of different physical prizes.

Claim 64: (Original) The method of Claim 56, wherein providing a physical prize to the player includes enabling the player to pick one of a plurality of physical prizes.

Claim 65: (Original) The method of Claim 56, wherein awarding the physical prize to the player includes generating a prize code.

Claim 66: (Original) The method of Claim 65, which includes placing the prize code on at least one of: a receipt, a ticket, a printing medium and a recording medium.

Claim 67: (Original) The method of Claim 56, wherein the designated initial number of spins are free spins.

Claim 68: (Original) The method of Claim 56, wherein the initial designated initial number of spins of the reels is at least in part based on a wager made by the player.

Claim 69: (Original) The method of Claim 56, wherein the designated number of the prize symbols necessary to be accumulated to win the physical prize is at least in part based on a wager made by the player.

Claim 70: (Original) The method of Claim 56, wherein the number of prize symbols accumulated for each prize symbol which occurs on the reels is at least in part based on a wager made by the player.

Claim 71: (Original) The method of Claim 56, wherein odds of obtaining a re-trigger of the reels is at least in part based on a wager made by the player.

Claim 72: (Original) The method of Claim 56, wherein the steps (a) to (h) are controlled through a data network.

Claim 73: (Original) The method of Claim 72, wherein the data network is an internet.

Claim 74: (Currently Amended) A method of operating a gaming device, said method comprising:

(a) displaying a plurality of reels and a plurality of symbols on the reels, said symbols including at least one first prize symbol, at least one second prize symbol and at least one re-trigger symbol;

(b) designating an initial number of spins of the reels, said designated number being greater than one;

(c) designating a number of the first prize symbols necessary to be accumulated to win a first physical prize, wherein the designated number of first prize symbols is greater than the number of first prize symbols which can possibly be accumulated in the designated initial number of spins of the reels;

(d) designating a number of the second prize symbols necessary to be accumulated to win a second different physical prize, wherein the designated number of second prize symbols is greater than the number of second prize symbols which can possibly be accumulated in the designated initial number of spins of the reels;

(e) activating the reels ~~for~~ until none of the designated initial number of spins remain;

(f) re-triggering at least one additional spin of the reels if the re-trigger symbol or a predetermined symbol combination occurs on the reels during the designated initial number of spins of the reels;

(g) accumulating any first prize symbols which occurs on the reels in each spin of the reels;

(h) accumulating any second prize symbols which occurs on the reels in each spin of the reels;

(i) awarding the first physical prize to the player if the accumulated number of first prize symbols reaches the designated number of first prize symbols; and

(j) awarding the second physical prize to the player if the accumulated number of second prize symbols reaches the designated number of second prize symbols.

Claim 75: (Original) The method of Claim 74, wherein the first physical prize is of a higher value than the second physical prize.

Claim 76: (Original) The method Claim 75, which includes a higher probability of obtaining the second physical prize than the first physical prize.

Claim 77: (Original) The method Claim 74, wherein the designated initial number of spins are free spins.

Claim 78: (Original) The method Claim 74, wherein the designated initial number of spins of the reels is at least in part based on a wager made by the player.

Claim 79: (Original) The method Claim 74, wherein the designated number of the first prize symbols necessary to be accumulated to win the first physical prize is at least in part based on a wager made by the player.

Claim 80: (Original) The method Claim 74, wherein the designated number of the second prize symbols necessary to be accumulated to win the second physical prize is at least in part based on a wager made by the player.

Claim 81: (Original) The method Claim 74, wherein the number of prize symbols accumulated for each prize symbol which occurs on the reels is at least in part based on a wager made by the player.

Claim 82: (Original) The method Claim 74, wherein odds of obtaining a re-trigger of the reels is at least in part based on a wager made by the player.

Claim 83: (Original) The method of Claim 74, wherein the steps (a) to (j) are controlled through a data network.

Claim 84: (Original) The method of Claim 83, wherein the data network is an internet.

Claim 85: (Currently Amended) A method of operating a gaming device, said method comprising:

- (a) displaying a plurality of reels and a plurality of symbols on the reels, said symbols including at least one first prize symbol, at least one second prize symbol and at least one re-trigger symbol;
- (b) designating an initial number of free spins of the reels, said designated number being greater than one;
- (c) designating a number of the first prize symbols necessary to be accumulated to win a first physical prize;

(d) designating a number of the second prize symbols necessary to be accumulated to win a second different physical prize, wherein the first physical prize is of higher value than the second physical prize;

(e) activating the reels for the designated initial number of spins;

(f) re-triggering at least one spin of the reels if the re-trigger symbol or a predetermined symbol combination occurs on the reels;

(g) accumulating any first prize symbols which occur on the reels in each spin of the reels;

(h) accumulating any second prize symbols which occur on the reels in each spin of the reels;

(i) awarding the first physical prize to the player if the accumulated number of first prize symbols reaches the designated number of first prize symbols, wherein the re-trigger symbol or the predetermined symbol combination must occur on the reels to accumulate the designated number of first prize symbols; and

(j) awarding the second physical prize to the player if the accumulated number of second prize symbols reaches the designated number of second prize symbols, wherein the re-trigger symbol or the predetermined symbol combination must occur on the reels to accumulate the designated number of second prize symbols.

Claim 86: (Original) The gaming device of Claim 85, which includes a higher probability of obtaining the second physical prize than the first physical prize.

Claim 87: (Original) The method of Claim 85, wherein the designated initial number of free spins of the reels is at least in part based on a wager made by the player.

Claim 88: (Original) The method of Claim 85, wherein the designated number of the first prize symbols necessary to be accumulated to win the first physical prize is at least in part based on a wager made by the player.

Claim 89: (Original) The method of Claim 85, wherein the designated number of the second prize symbols necessary to be accumulated to win the second physical prize is at least in part based on a wager made by the player.

Claim 90: (Original) The method of Claim 85, wherein the number of prize symbols accumulated for each prize symbol which occurs on the reels is at least in part based on a wager made by the player.

Claim 91: (Original) The method of Claim 85, wherein odds of obtaining a re-trigger of the reels is at least in part based on a wager made by the player.

Claim 92: (Original) The method of Claim 85, wherein the steps (a) to (j) are controlled through a data network.

Claim 93: (Original) The method of Claim 92, wherein the data network is an internet.